

REMARKS

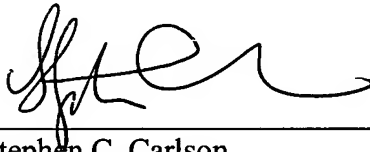
By this amendment, claims 20-44 are pending, in which claim 1 is cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 20-44 are newly presented. Care was exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter.

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (703) 425-8508 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

DITTHAVONG & CARLSON, P.C.

1/8/2004
Date



Stephen C. Carlson
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 39929

10507 Braddock Road
Suite A
Fairfax, VA 22032
Tel. (703) 425-8508
Fax. (703) 425-8518